

ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT APPROVAL _____

STATE BOARD MEETING DATE March 24, 2008

SUBJECT: Contract Abstracts

SUBMITTED BY: Cindy Palmer

MANAGEMENT TEAM REVIEW: March 6, 2008

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: ☐ INFORMATION ☐ ACTION/DESCRIBED
BELOW:

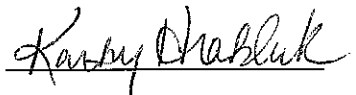
ATTACHMENTS: YES ☒ NO ☐

*Contract available in Contracts Office:
Cynthia Palmer

**SUMMARY OF
STATE BOARD CONTRACTS**

For State Board Meeting
Date: March 24, 2008

TO WHOM CONTRACT AWARDED	PURPOSE	CONTRACT AMOUNT	FUNDING	END DATES	PROGRAM/ADE CONTACT PERSON
1. See attached Tentative List	To provide assistance to schools and districts that need to substantially improve the number of students meeting the challenging state standards, by carrying out their school improvement and district improvement responsibilities.	Total Not to Exceed \$2,559,460	No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB), Public Law 107-110, Section 1003, Program Title School Improvement Grants, CFDA/Subprogram No: 84.377A	September 30, 2008	Kimberly Allen/ Doug Price

ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT APPROVAL**STATE BOARD MEETING DATE** March 24, 2008**SUBJECT:** Title I School Improvement Grant Fund**SUBMITTED BY:** Kimberly Allen – Deputy Associate Superintendent**MANAGEMENT TEAM REVIEW:** March 6, 2008**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:****PRESS RELEASE****SECRETARY SPELLINGS AWARDS OVER \$38 MILLION TO 20 STATES IN SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GRANTS*****New Program to Support Improvement in Nation's Most Challenging Schools***

U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings today announced \$38 million to twenty States in School Improvement Grants to help turn around low-performing schools, bringing the total awarded to date to over \$90 million in 41 States. The grants will help States take a greater role in developing and delivering comprehensive leadership and technical assistance to help reform schools and districts that are not making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP).

"*No Child Left Behind* shines a spotlight on schools and holds them accountable for results. School Improvement Grants support the steps States and school districts are taking to improve standards and outcomes in low-performing schools so that our nation's students can succeed in classroom and beyond," said Secretary Spellings.

School Improvement Grants help States and districts fulfill their responsibilities to improve schools and ensure that all students are reading and doing math on grade-level by 2014. Under *No Child Left Behind*, a school is considered in need of improvement if it does not make AYP for at least two consecutive years. These grant will help meet a growing demand for more comprehensive improvement measures so States and schools can work to address problems before facing restructuring.

The U.S. Department of Education will award a total of \$125 million in School Improvement Grants this year. The allocation of funds is based on the Title I allocation for each state. Following are the twenty States and grant amounts awarded today.

* Alaska	\$387,886
* Arizona	\$2,559,460
* Colorado	\$1,233,591
* Connecticut	\$1,072,455
* District of Columbia	\$ 430,133
* Georgia	\$3,975,771
* Iowa	\$675,321
* Kentucky	\$1,828,604
* Michigan	\$4,472,453
* Minnesota	\$1,103,590
* Missouri	\$1,939,187
* New Mexico	\$948,538
* North Dakota	\$284,321
* Oklahoma	\$1,194,184
* Rhode Island	\$487,186
* South Dakota	\$361,862
* Texas	\$11,556,803
* Virginia	\$1,954,005

* Washington	\$1,883,922
* Wyoming	\$272,871

Additional information on School Improvement Grants is available online at <http://www.ed.gov/policy/elsec/guid/stateletters/schimpfundappl.pdf>.

Which Arizona schools are eligible for these funds?

Priority will be given to schools using the following criteria:

- Schools in Restructuring
- LEA in Corrective Action
- School Improvement based on AMOs
- Rural schools

An LEA's priority will be calculated by a weighted point system, based on four categories:

- Level and number of schools in improvement
- LEA improvement status
- Whether identification of school improvement was based on not meeting AMO's
- Location in a rural county.

LEA will demonstrate commitment by:

- Describing any successful improvement initiative
- Assistance provided to schools that are also in jeopardy under the state accountability system AZ LEARNS
- Recommendations from the ADE School Improvement staff who have been working with the schools.
- Providing a narrative outlining their commitment to improvement goals

Once high priority schools are identified, strongest commitment will be measured by the review of the school's improvement plan to determine synchronicity to the LEA's improvement plan. It will be of great importance that the school level and LEA plans work together to ensure desired results.

How can grant awards be spent by Arizona schools?

- Paying for registration and related expenses to attend workshops and conferences provided by the SEA that address their AYP determination;
- Training and implementation of strategies that will address a school's AYP determination;
- Allocating funds for resources and personnel deemed necessary in addressing their AYP determination
- Creation of materials with SEA support or in partnership with the State (state financed research and practical guides, etc.)

The focus of the activities should be based on the specific needs of the participating schools and districts including but not limited to:

- SEA sponsored Best Practices Institutes with focus on improving instruction, data driven instruction and leadership
- Online access through Arizona State University's ASSET for additional instruction and technical assistance in the area(s) school missed AYP
- Partnering with WestEd and Southwest Comprehensive Center (SWCC) to assist in delivering research based technical assistance in the above mentioned areas.

What is the minimum and maximum amount of funds available for an Arizona school?

LEAs will be permitted to write for a range of awards, based on the number and level of schools identified for improvement with a minimum of \$50,000 per school and maximum of \$100,000. They will also be required to demonstrate how these funds will be coordinated with those received by the schools from the 1003(a) funds. The amounts shown here and actual awards will depend on the number of schools meeting criteria previously discussed in this application.

Proposed Grant Awards

Current Level and School Setting	Minimum Proposed Award
Restructuring Implementation and Rural School	\$100,000
Restructuring Implementation and Urban School	\$ 70,000
Restructuring Planning and Rural School	\$ 65,000
Restructuring Planning and Urban School	\$ 50,000

How will this grant be monitored and evaluated?

The SEA will review schools using the following criteria:

- *Does the plan address the school's AYP determination and the results of the self assessment on the Standards and Rubric for School Improvement? We will look for a relationship in the format of goals/strategies/activities, funding resources, timelines and professional development activities.*
- *Were all stakeholders involved in the development of the improvement plan? How were they involved and what will be their future involvement?*
- *What was the effectiveness of the previous year's strategies? What, if any, revisions have been made to this year's plan as a result of school's self evaluation?*

We will use this process to assess progress as schools move towards Meeting or Exceeding the Standard. It is our hope that an LEA will view this process as a necessity in establishing goals regarding changes in instructional practice that will be supported by professional development for all staff.

The ultimate goal will be that the schools will meet AYP targets and exit from school improvement status. It is essential that progress toward implementation be demonstrated prior to a renewal of the grant for subsequent years.

**BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: [] INFORMATION [] ACTION/DESCRIBED
BELOW:**

ATTACHMENTS: YES [x] NO []

CONTRACT ABSTRACT

Proposed contract between the **State Board of Education**, acting for and on behalf of the Department of Education and

Name of Contracting Parties:

See Attached Tentative List

Purpose:

To provide assistance to schools and districts that need to substantially improve the number of students meeting the challenging state standards, by carrying out their school improvement and district improvement responsibilities. These funds will help contribute to overall goals of NCLB and allow ADE to take a greater role in developing comprehensive leadership and technical assistance when it comes to schools with the Title I School Improvement Restructure Planning and Restructure Implementing school performance labels as it pertains to making adequate yearly progress on the Arizona Instrument to Measure Standards.

Contract Amount:

Total not to exceed \$2,559,460

Source of Funds:

Authorizing Legislation:	No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB), Public Law 107-110, Section 1003, Program Title School Improvement Grants, CFDA/Subprogram No: 84.377A
Index No.:	S377A070003

Responsible Unit at Department of Education:

School Effectiveness Division

Deputy Associate Superintendent:	Kimberly Allen
Program Contact:	Douglas Price

Dates of Contract:

This agreement shall take effect when approved by the Board and shall terminate on September 30, 2008.

Under the Tydings Amendment, Section 421(b) of the General Education Provisions act, to USC 1225(B), any funds that are not obligated at the end of the Federal funding period specified in Block 6 of this U.S. Department of Education grants award notification shall remain available for obligation for an additional period of 12 months.

Explanation of Contract:

This NCLB School Improvement Fund that Arizona is receiving will contribute to the overall goals of NCLB and allow ADE to take a greater role in developing and delivering comprehensive leadership and technical assistance when it comes to schools and districts that are not making adequate yearly progress (AYP).

Previous Contract History

Over the past six years, NCLB has challenged States to close the achievement gaps between subgroups of students and ensure that all students are proficient in reading and math by 2014. The law also included comprehensive reforms that ensure all students have access to a high quality teacher, a greater focus on the use of research based instructional practices, and a new emphasis on school improvement. This is the first year that ADE has applied for these *additional* Title I School Improvement funds as authorized in No Child Left Behind (NCLB).

Number Affected (Students, Teachers, and Public as appropriate)

- ◆ 9 Rural Arizona School Districts serving 17 schools that are in re-structuring
- ◆ 9 Metro Arizona School Districts serving 16 schools that in re-structuring
- ◆ 2 Rural and 6 Metro School Districts serving 7 schools in re-structuring potentially being served in Phase II- depending upon funding allocations/distribution

Method of Determining Contract Amounts

Priority will be given to schools using the following criteria:

- ◆ Schools in Restructuring
- ◆ LEA in Corrective Action
- ◆ School Improvement based on AMOs
- ◆ Rural Schools

An LEA's priority will be calculated by a weighted point system, based on four categories:

- ◆ Level and Number of Schools in Improvement
- ◆ LEA Improvement Status
- ◆ Whether identification of school improvement was based on not meeting AMO's
- ◆ Location in a rural county

LEA's will be permitted to write for a range of awards, based on the number and level of schools indentified for improvement with a minimum of \$50,000 per school and maximum of \$100,000. They will also be required to demonstrate how these funds will be coordinated with those received by the schools from 1003(a) funds.

The Amounts shown here and actual awards will depend on the number of schools meeting criteria previously discussed in this application.

Proposed Grant Awards

Current Level & School Setting	Minimum Proposed Award
Restructuring Implementation and Rural School	\$100,000
Restructuring Implementation and Urban School	\$70,000
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Restructuring Planning and Urban School	\$50,000

LEA will demonstrate commitment by:

- ◆ Describing any successful improvement initiative
- ◆ Assistance provided to schools that are also in jeopardy under the state accountability system AZ LEARNS
- ◆ Recommendations from the ADE School Improvement Staff who have been working with the schools.
- ◆ Providing a narrative outlining their commitment to Improvement goals.

Once high priority schools are indentified, strongest commitment will be measured by the review of the school's improvement plan to determine synchronicity to the LEA's improvement plan. It will be of great importance that the school level and LEA plans work together to ensure desired results.

Evaluation Plan

The SEA will review schools using the following criteria:

- ◆ Does the plan address the school's AYP determination and the results of the self assessment on the Standards and Rubric for School Improvement? We will look for a relationship in the format of goals/strategies/activities, funding resources, timelines and professional development activities.
- ◆ Were all stakeholders involved in the development of the improvement plan? How were they involved and what will be their future involvement?
- ◆ What was the effectiveness of the previous year's strategies? What, if any, revisions have been made to this year's plan as a result of school's self evaluation?

The Department of Education will use this process to assess progress as schools move towards Meeting or Exceeding the Standard. It is our intent that an LEA will view this process as a necessity in establishing goals regarding changes in instructional practice that will be supported by professional development for all staff.

The ultimate goal will be that schools will meet AYP targets and exit from school improvement status.

Ultimately, the success of implementation will be determined and evaluated through schools showing annual adequate progress relative to past and present program goals, performance measures, and gains student achievement as measured by both the norm referenced and AIMS tests. It is essential that progress toward implementation be demonstrated prior to renewal of the grant for subsequent years.